

# Benton County Election Commission

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Russell J. Anzalone  
Chairman

M. W. Sevak  
Member



John M. Brown, Jr.  
Secretary

Kim Dennison  
Coordinator

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## MINUTES OF THE BENTON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION

August 3, 2016

Election Commission members present: Chairman Russell Anzalone, John M. Brown, Jr., and Mike Sevak

Others present: Election Coordinator Kim Dennison, Sharon Rose, Serena Green, Deputy Clerk Tiffany Underwood, Beth Haney, and Kathy Breed

Media: Tom Sissom, Northwest Arkansas Democrat Gazette

Chairman Anzalone called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M. and welcomed everyone.

### **Minutes:**

Chairman Anzalone asked if there were any additions or corrections to the July 15, 2016 minutes. There being none, Chairman Anzalone made a motion that the minutes be approved as submitted, seconded by Commissioner Brown. Motion carried by voice vote.

### **Unfinished Business:**

None

### **New Business:**

- A. Discussion on Amending the Established Official Polling Locations for the Annual School Election to be held September 20, 2016: Commissioners Anzalone asked for discussion. Election Coordinator Kim Dennison responded that the Bentonville School District has a total of 55,676 registered voters and there are 8,524 registered voters in Zone 3. Kim added that Zone 3 will have three (3) candidates running in the Annual School Election. Kim stated that she spoke with Bentonville Superintendent Debbie Jones and she agreed that another polling site should be opened and suggested the courthouse. Kim stated that the courthouse could not be used on Election Day and gave Superintendent Jones a list of other available locations for another recommendation. Kim stated that she sent Superintendent Jones an email, but did not get a response. Kim stated that the Bentonville Church of Christ located at 708 N. Walton Blvd. is in Zone 3 and would be a good location. Chairman Anzalone asked

Commissioners Brown and Sevak for comments. Commissioner Brown stated that we consulted with Superintendent Jones for another location, but with no response. He agreed with Kim that the Bentonville Church of Christ was a good location. Candidate Beth Haney asked Chairman Anzalone if she could comment. Chairman Anzalone recognized Beth Haney. Beth Haney stated that she and the other two (2) candidates were contacted through email by Superintendent Jones and that the school would like to add an additional location being the Bentonville Church of Christ. Also she stated that the courthouse was not an option, and that the school would like to stay neutral with leaving the decision up to the three (3) candidates. Superintendent Jones communicated to them that the decision must be unanimous. Beth Haney stated that two (2) of the candidates agreed with the location being the Bentonville Church of Christ, but one (1) candidate did not agree. Beth Haney stated that she was attending the commission meeting as a voter of Benton County and not as a candidate, and would like the commissioners to choose the Bentonville Church of Christ location as an additional location for the voters of Benton County. Commissioner Sevak states that he has concern with a candidate suggesting a polling location, but was not opposed to the location. He added that the recommendation should have come from Superintendent Jones. Commissioner Brown stated that the commission consulted with the school board per the Election Laws of Arkansas (A.C.A. §6-14-106), they did respond and the commission meetings are open to citizens voicing their options about polling locations. Commissioner Brown added that he agreed that the Bentonville Church of Christ would be an effective location. Commissioner Sevak stated he was not opposed to opening the Bentonville Church of Christ, but he felt more communication was needed. Chairman Anzalone asked for further discussion. There being no further discussion, Commissioner Brown made a motion to add Bentonville Church of Christ located at 708 N. Walton Blvd. as an additional polling location for the Annual School Election to be held September 20, 2016, seconded by Chairman Anzalone. Motion carried by voice vote.

#### **Other Business:**

Chairman Anzalone stated that the Arkansas Secretary of State's Office in conjunction with the Arkansas Crime Information Center incorrectly flagged thousands of people in the voter registration lists. Chairman Anzalone added that many Arkansas voters may have to prove their status before voting in this year's presidential election year. Chairman Anzalone stated that he spoke with Voter/Elections Administrator Dana Caler and the County Clerk's Office was going through approximately 550 registered voters in Benton County. Dana told Chairman Anzalone that the registered voters would be verified before the school election which will be held on September 20, 2016.

Kim stated that ES&S submitted a purchase proposal quote for an additional twenty-five (25) ExpressPoll Tablets and twenty-five (25) DYMO Turbo Printers in the amount of \$24,275.00. Commissioner Sevak asked Kim in which line item on the budget the monies would be appropriated. Kim responded that monies would be moved from the line item Maintenance and Service Contracts and put into the line item Small Equipment. Kim added that the monies in Maintenance and Service Contracts were budgeted for 2016 due to the fact that it was uncertain if the State was covering the maintenance on the IvoTronics. Chairman Anzalone made a motion to purchase an additional twenty-five (25) ExpressPoll Tablets and twenty-five (25) DYMO Turbo Printers in the amount of \$24,275.00, seconded by Commissioner Brown. Motion carried by voice vote.

**Public Comments:**

None

**Announcements:**

None

**Adjournment:**

Commissioner Anzalone made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Brown. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

John M. Brown, Jr., Secretary  
Prepared by Sharon Rose  
Benton County Election Commission